

## LITERATURE OF INTEREST

The taxonomic status of *Pentachaeta* and *Chaetopappa* with a revision of *Pentachaeta*. By Gene S. Van Horn. Univ. Calif. Publ. Bot. 65:1-41. 1973. Concludes that two asteraceous genera that are sometimes merged are not closely related; one new subspecies described in *Pentachaeta*.

The peristome of *Fissidens limbatus* Sullivant. By Dale M. J. Mueller. Univ. Calif. Publ. Bot. 63:1-34, 35 plates. 1973. Morphology, development, and histochemistry of the peristome in the moss *Fissidens limbatus*, using light and transmission electron microscopy.

George B. Hinton, collector of plants in southwestern Mexico. By James Hinton and J. Rzedowski. J. Arnold Arbor. 53:140-181. 1972. Includes collecting itinerary (with map) and biographical notes.

## REVIEWS

*Rocky Mountain Flora*. By WILLIAM A. WEBER. vii + 438 pp., 346 figs., 8 color plates. Colorado Associated University Press, Boulder, 1972.

This is the fourth edition of a book originally published in 1953 under the title *Handbook of Plants of the Colorado Front Range*. The third edition was the first in this family of handbooks to bear the title *Rocky Mountain Flora* and was reviewed in 1969 by W. R. Ernst with views essentially in accordance with my own (Madroño 20:29-30). In interest of economy of space the reader is referred to that review.

The new edition sports an attractive new cover with a nice photograph of the ever popular *Calypto bulbosa*. Inside, near the front, 8 pages of color photos by the author and H. W. Roberts have been inserted, some of which are very good. The pages have been trimmed to narrower margins, the corners have been rounded, and thinner but good grade paper has been used. Thus the overall size of the book has been reduced, making it considerably more convenient to carry into the field.

The new edition is essentially a reprint of the previous one with nomenclatural changes in some genera, such as in *Betula*, *Helianthus*, and *Heterotheca*, and the addition of some species, as in *Phlox*. Other changes may have been made but they are inconspicuous. The drawings by C. F. Yocum are reproduced with less loss of detail than in the third edition, but many are still too black. The book is remarkably error-free; the labels on the *Phleum* illustrations are no longer reversed.

The book nicely bridges the needs of the beginner, the amateur, and the professional. Introductory remarks and instructions are directed largely toward the beginner, the keys generally use easily seen characters, common synonyms are given for many species, and an attempt has been made to be complete for the region covered. The book is highly usable for all interested in the flora of the Rocky Mountain region, over an area considerably greater than the Colorado Front Range, which it is specifically covers.—RICHARD SPELLENBERG, Department of Biology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces 88001.

*The Quantitative Analysis of Plant Growth*. By G. CLIFFORD EVANS. xxvi + 734 pp. University of California Press, Berkeley, 1972. \$22.00.

This monograph is directed toward ecologists and others interested in quantitatively describing plant growth under natural conditions. It represents Volume 1 in a series entitled "Studies in Ecology" and is presented on an advanced undergraduate or beginning graduate level. A recurring theme throughout the book is the "ontogenetic drift" of an individual plant as it experiences different environments over its lifetime. Such changes in plant form and function are discussed mainly in the restricted sense of effects on the dry weight or the area of plant tissues. Considerable